

I am a pilot for ATA airlines. In addition to flying regularly as a crewmember I also commute to work on other airlines on a weekly basis. The following commentary is not in my own words but it is 100% truthful. Do not allow passenger use of cell phones or other devices inflight. One can only imagine the "air rage" that will come from this practice, not to mention the security risks that are mentioned in the commentary.

The use of cell phones in the air is not only inappropriate but
>unsafe. We have no data to suggest that cell phone use doesn't
>interfere with aircraft navigation systems. The NPRM claims that
>cell phone use among passengers would enhance security onboard
because it
>would allow better communication with people on the ground. By the
same
>token, it would enable terrorists on board to communicate with one
another
>to execute a hijacking more effectively. They could, for example,
simply
>take out a Blackberry to email the positions of flight crew or
someone they
>suspect to be a Federal Air Marshal or to communicate if the
flight deck
>door were being opened for a pilot.
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>The mixture of thin air, cramped quarters, frayed nerves and
>alcohol consumption already pushes passengers to the limit. Add
multiple,
>high volume cell phone conversations and the recipe for disaster
is
>complete.
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>The introduction of cell phone use in the cabin would not only
>introduce a new security risk and increase tension among
>passengers, it would compromise flight attendants' ability to
>maintain order in an emergency. Imagine trying to prepare
>passengers for an evacuation and you're getting the 'wait a
>minute finger wag' while the people in that area miss out on
>crucial information you are trying to communicate.

This proposed regulation is fraught with unintended consequences and I urge the FCC to reject it.

Respectfully submitted

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